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Remarks:

The proposed letters to Secretaries of State and Defense seem fine to me. One minor editorial comment which appears to me involves the words "particularly during the recent months" at the end of the first sentence. I am not sure that things are any worse recently than they used to be, and you might wish to leave these words out. Another even more insignificant point involves some "woulds" on pages 2 and 3 which I think should be seem to me.

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FORM, NO. 237

John S. Warner

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Approved For Release 2005/07/13: CIA-RDP66B00403R000500190013-1

2-5-64

The Honorable Dean Rusk The Secretary of State Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rusk:

As you know, presentations by the executive departments to Congress on matters involving intelligence and intelligence operations have presented increasingly difficult problems in coordination. These problems relate both to ensuring the appropriate protection of intelligence sources or methods from unauthorized disclosure and to ensuring that the coordinated views and opinions of the intelligence community are accurately expressed or taken into account.

There are currently no established procedures within the intelligence community for coordination by representatives of the executive departments of intelligence briefings or presentations for the Congress, although some informal coordination has taken place on an ad hoc basis. I recognize, of course, that it may not always be possible to achieve prior coordination on many occasions when heads of executive departments testify or make presentations to congressional committees. It does seem to me, however, that it would be practical

to work out coordination procedures for at least the following situations where information derived from agreed National Intelligence Estimates is involved.

- l. Prepared statements for presentation to Congress, either classified or unclassified.
- 2. Editing and correction of transcripts, whether the hearings are open or closed. In most cases, questions are asked which elicit greater detail or new material not included in the prepared statement.
- 3. Submission of answers to questions in writing. Increasingly, members of Congress have asked detailed questions which the witness is unable to answer at the time and the result is a request that the information "be supplied for the record."
- 4. Security review of executive session transcripts for the purpose of publication of the hearings.

Since the Central Intelligence Agency is thoroughly familiar with the background material and detailed intelligence entering into such Estimates, it seems to me that it would be feasible to utilize the facilities of the Central Intelligence Agency to coordinate the types of presentations listed above. I believe that referral of such material to the Bureau of Intelligence and Research for their coordination with the Agency through normal contacts and procedures would be appropriate and could be expeditiously handled.

I envision that such coordination would be purely advisory in nature and

would seek to:

- Identify intelligence and information concerning intelligence sources or methods, the disclosure of which would be inappropriate;
 and
- 2. Identify statements at variance with the agreed views of the intelligence community and recommend revisions accordingly.

My proposal to make the facilities of the Central Intelligence
Agency available to coordinate congressional testimony is in accordance
with my statutory responsibility for the correlation of intelligence
relating to the national security, and for the protection of intelligence
sources and methods. Nevertheless, the ultimate responsibility for
testimony to Congress by the head of each executive department or
agency, of course, continues to rest with the official who is testifying.

I would appreciate an expression of your views on this proposal.

If you believe it has merit, I suggest that appropriate members of our respective staffs work out the necessary details. I am addressing a similar letter to the Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara.

Sincerely,

John A. McCone Director Approved For Release 2005/07/13 : CIA-RDP66B00403R000500190013-1 $^{\rm D\ R\ A\ F\ T}$

63-6421/4

The Honorable Robert S. McKamara
The Secretary of Defense
Tashington 25, D. C.

fear ar. Alenamera:

As you know, presentations by the executive departments to Congress on matters involving intelligence and intelligence operations have presented increasingly difficult problems in coordination, particularly during the recent months. These problems relate both to ensuring the appropriate protection of intelligence sources or methods from unauthorized disclosure and to ensuring that the coordinated views and opinions of the intelligence community are accurately expressed or taken into account.

There are currently no established procedures within the intelligence community for coordination by representatives of the executive departments of intelligence briefings or presentations for the Congress, although some informal coordination has taken place on an ed hoc basis. I recognize, of course, that it may not always be possible to achieve prior coordination on many occasions when heads of executive departments testify or make presentations to congressional

committees. It does seem to me, however, that it would be practical to work out coordination procedures for at least the following situations where information derived from agreed National Intelligence Estimates is involved.

- i. Prepared statements for presentation to Congress, either classified or unclassified.
- 2. Editing and correction of transcripts, whether the hearings are open or closed. In most cases, questions are asked which elicit greater detail or new material not included in the prepared statement.
- 3. Submission of answers to questions in writing. Increasingly, members of Congress have asked detailed questions which the witness is unable to answer in the time and the result is a request that the information "be supplied for the record."
- 4. Security review of executive session transcripts for the purpose of publication of the hearings.

Since the Central Intelligence Agency and, particularly, its Office of National Estimates participates extensively in the preparation of all National Intelligence Estimates and is thoroughly familiar with the background material and detailed intelligence entering into such Estimates, it seems to me that it would be feasible to utilize the facilities of the Central Intelligence Agency in reviewing the types of presentations listed

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above. I envision that such a review would be purely advisory in nature and undertaken in consultation with representatives of agencies immediately concerned and would seek to:

- Identify intelligence and information concerning intelligence sources or methods, the disclosure of which would be unappropriate;
- 2. Identify statements at variance with the agreed views of the intelligence community and recommend revisions accordingly.

The ultimate responsibility for presentation to Congress, whatever their form, rests, of course, with the head of each executive department and agency.

I would appreciate an expression of your views on this proposal.

If you believe it has merit, I would suggest that appropriate members of our respective staffs work out the necessary details. I am addressing a similar letter to the Secretary of State, Dean Rusk.

Cordially yours,

John A. McCone Director

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